

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/682,988

Applicant(s)

GOTTSELIG ET AL.

Examiner

Igor Borissov

Art Unit

3639

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to BPAI Decision - Examiner Reversed - of 01/31/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

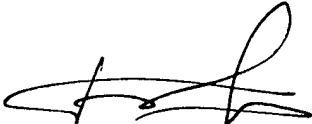
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☒ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☒ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____



IGOR N. BORISSOV
PRIMARY EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103 have been withdrawn based on the BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES (BPAI) decision on appeal.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with an applicant's representative Daniel H. Bliss (Reg. No.: 32,398) on Tuesday, August 29, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

18. (CANCELED)

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-25 and 27 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent Claim 1, based on the BPAI decision on appeal, the best prior art, Fukatsu et al. (US 2002/0052666), teaches a method for providing product environment information, comprising: inputting restricted substances and recycle

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content data of parts supplied by a product supplier into a computer system of a product manufacturer; reviewing the inputted data and determining parts with banned or recycled content or substances over predetermined thresholds; reporting the determined parts to the supplier and product manufacture.

However, Fukatsu et al., does not specify use of the disclosed system in a vehicle manufacturing environment and does not disclose a step of reviewing the inputted part information and determining (i.e., identifying) parts with banned or recycled content or substances over predetermined thresholds.

As per independent Claim 17, based on the BPAI decision on appeal, the best prior art, Fukatsu et al. teaches a method for providing product environment information, comprising: inputting and saving restricted substances and recycle content data of parts supplied by a product supplier into a computer system of a product manufacturer; reviewing the inputted data and determining parts with banned or recycled content or substances over predetermined thresholds; reporting the determined parts to the supplier and product manufacture. While Farmer et al. teaches determining whether there are any substances with threshold content limits, Fukatsu et al. does not provide any teaching or suggesting to do so.

The best foreign art, Do (JP02000339015A) while teaching managing dynamic vehicle parts input indication information, fails to disclose reviewing the inputted part information and determining (i.e., identifying) parts with banned or recycled content or substances over predetermined thresholds.

The best non-patent literature, VENDORS MANUAL A Vendor's Guide on How to do Business with the Commonwealth of Virginia 1998, while teaching procedures of handling parts with recycled or banned content to be utilized by vendors, fails to disclose reviewing the inputted part information and determining (i.e., identifying) parts with banned or recycled content or substances over predetermined thresholds.

The remaining dependent Claims are considered allowable, as they are dependent and based off of an allowable independent Claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

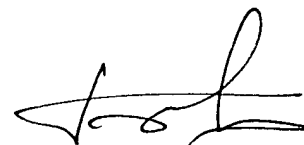
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IB

8/29/2006



**IGOR N. BORISSOV
PRIMARY EXAMINER**